

The Hawaiian Stilt

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The Hawaiian Stilt or Ae'o in Hawaiian is a slender waterbird. The adult males and females are black on top and white on the bottom. They have long, thin black bills and long, pink legs. The Hawaiian Stilt is an endangered animal in Hawaii. It was endangered in 1964 and now we only have around 1,500 in Hawaii. They live on every island except for Lana'i and Kahoolawe.

The Hawaiian Stilt lives on the shore line, small brackish ponds, mud flats. They prefer shallow waters that are less than 9 inches deep. And they prefer areas with low growing vegetation. They eat small invertebrates. Some invertebrates are larva from dragon flies, small fish, worms, crab, water insects, and seeds or roots from plants. They also eat fish, crabs, and aquatic insects. They are found in groups, pairs, or alone. They make a "keek" sound when they are getting disturbed by other animals or people. Their breeding season is mid February into August. Their nest is made out of small stones, bits of wood, and other debris. They lay three to four eggs and the chicks will hatch around 24 days later. Both parents incubate the eggs and raise their chicks for several months.

The Hawaiian Stilt adapts to the environment of Hawaii because it rains a lot in Hawaii. The Hawaiian Stilts like water so they go to the wetland sites and they will live there.

I hope you learned a lot on the Hawaiian Stilt today and please don't make them more endangered by littering or causing pollution.